

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 1, 6, 28, and 30 are amended. Claims 5 and 29 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-4, 6-28, and 30 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 15-27 stand allowed.

Claims 5-6 and 29-30 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

With respect to claim 5, claim 5 depends from claim 1. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the elements of allowable claim 5. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, as well as claims 2-4 and 6-14 depending from claim 1, are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 29, claim 29 depends from claim 28. Claim 28 has been amended to incorporate the elements of allowable claim 29. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 28, as well as claim 30 depending from claim 28, are in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-2, 3-4, 7-14, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,072,688 to Bodnard et al. (hereinafter "Bodnard"). Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the elements of allowable claim 5. Claim 28 has been amended to incorporate the elements of allowable

claim 29. These amendments have been made to expedite issuance of the allowable claims in the present application. These amendments are not intended to be, and are not to be interpreted as, an admission that Applicant agrees with the rejection of claims 1-2, 3-4, 7-14, and 28.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-2, 3-4, 7-14, and 28, as amended, are allowable over Bodnard.

Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All of the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Office issue a Notice of Allowability. If the Office's next anticipated action is to be anything other than issuance of a Notice of Allowability, Applicant respectfully requests a telephone call for the purpose of scheduling an interview.

Respectfully Submitted,

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